

STAT

The Washington Post _____
 The New York Times _____
 The Washington Times _____
 The Wall Street Journal p. 1
 The Christian Science Monitor _____
 New York Daily News _____
 USA Today _____
 The Chicago Tribune _____
 Date 18 Nov 88

BUSH MOVES to soothe Democrats in Congress, but problems loom.

The president-elect schedules a private lunch with House Speaker Wright today. Richard Darman, the likely Bush budget chief, pushes a strategy in which the new administration wouldn't present its own budget; instead, it would open talks with Congress. But Democrats suspect a ploy to duck heat on the deficit and are likely to demand that Bush come up with a budget.

New Bush chief of staff Sununu's abrasive style is a notable concern; he counters that the tough Bush campaign didn't engage in "Congress-bashing." Former deputy CIA Director Bobby Inman, popular in was a choice for CIA chief but rules himself out; Soviet expert William Hyland is a possibility. Retiring Washington Sen. Evans is pushed for interior secretary.

Democrats say they will cooperate, but many expect battles over such issues as taxes and defense spending.